

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, ensuring the mental health of our children is essential to their growth and development; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, at least 20% of American children and adolescents aged 9-17 have a mental health disorder, with 11% suffering from a major mental illness that results in significantly impaired behavior at home, school, and among peers, and 5% having extreme functional impairment; and

WHEREAS, the participation of family members in the assessment and treatment of children and adolescents with mental health disorders is integral to positive clinical outcomes; and

WHEREAS, learning to recognize the early warning signs of mental health problems and where to obtain necessary assistance and treatment gives children and adolescents better opportunities to lead full and productive lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 7 - 12, 2007, as

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to raise awareness of the mental health needs of the children of the Palmetto State.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA